## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /050 W

-----171513 079405 /50

O 171503Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0745
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: PRESS QUERIES ON AGEE AND HOSENBALL

IF QUERIED, WE PLAN TO RESPOND ALONG FOLLOWING LINES TO QUESTIONS REGARDING BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO DEPORT PHILIP AGEE AND MARK HOSENBALL.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO DEPORT AGEE AND HOSENBALL?

A. FROM THE BEGINNING, WE HAVE CONSIDERED THIS TO BE PURELY A BRITISH INTERNAL MATTER AND THEREFORE WE HAVE NO COMMENT.

Q. WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

A. YOU WILL HAVE TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION WITH MESSRS. AGEE AND HOSENBALL AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

Q. WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?

A. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PRACTICE, WE WOULD TAKE NO STEPS UNLESS REQUESTED TO DO SO BY MESSRS. AGEE AND HOSENBALL OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES. WHAT, IF ANYTHING, WE WOULD DO WOULD DEPEND ENTIRELY ON THE NATURE OF THEIR REQUESTS. WE HAVE HAD NO SUCH REQUESTS TO DATE.
Q. IN CASE OF SUCH REQUESTS, WHAT WOULD BE THE BOUNDARIES WITHIN WHICH YOU WOULD BE OPERATING?
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A. WITHOUT IN ANY WAY COMMENTING ON THE AGEE OR HOSENBALL CASES, OR WITHOUT SUGGESTING WHAT WE MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT DO IN THESE SPECIFIC CASES, NORMAL PROCEDURE IS AS FOLLOWS: WE WOULD TAKE STEPS ONLY IF WE FELT THAT A PERSON HAD RECEIVED UNEQUAL TREATMENT BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN OR BECAUSE HIS RIGHTS HAD BEEN VIOLATED.

ARMSTRONG

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: SOPN, (AGEE, PHILIP), (HOSENBALL, MARK)

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